

Serial No. 10/675,360

134083-1

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Amendment and reconsideration of the pending claims. Claims 1-11, 16, and 18-29 are cancelled. Claims 12, 13 and 17 are amended. Accordingly, claims 12-15 and 17 are pending in the application.

Claim 17 was rejected under 35 USC § 102 as being anticipated by Zaluska et al. Applicant has cancelled the materials (lithium, boron, and magnesium) from claim 17. The currently amended claim is not anticipated by the reference. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Claims 12, 13 and 17 were rejected under 35 USC § 103 as being unpatentable over Zaluska et al. in view of Stizki et al. Applicant has cancelled the materials (lithium, sodium, potassium, magnesium, and boron) from claims 12 and 17. The currently amended claims are not disclosed, taught or suggested by either reference or the combination of references. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

With regard to claim 13, in addition to depending from an allowable claim, the subject matter is amended to refer to heating means not disclosed, taught or suggested in the cited art. While the Office Action states that heating means/methods are interchangeable and irrelevant Applicant traverses that notion. Clearly, for microwave radiation to generate heat - material must be capable of acting as a susceptor; for convectional heating - material must be capable of functioning within a temperature gradient (as portions will heat at different rates). There is no disclosure, teaching or suggestion that other heating means/methods are suitable for the use here. If all heating methods are equivalent, Applicant expects that some reference provided would indicate the interoperability of such. None are provided. Electrical heating is removed to address the rejection based on Jensen et al. Applicant submits that amended claim 13 is allowable over the cited art. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Claims 14 and 15 depend from an allowable claim and are therefore also allowable. Claim 14 particularly points out dopants suitable for use. The disclosure in Chen et al. does not disclose, teach or suggest the use of the dopants with the amended list of materials. Without such an indication of a reasonable expectation of success, and

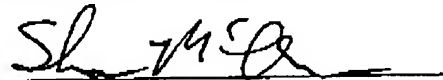
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an actual disclosure of all the claim elements, there can be no *prima facie* case for obviousness. Applicant submits that claims 14 and 15 are allowable over the cited art. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is needed to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number below. Any additional fees for the accompanying response are hereby petitioned for, and the Director is authorized to charge such fees as may be required to Deposit Account 07-0868.

Respectfully submitted,



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